

## Kentucky Department of Corrections Staff and Offender Newsletter

APRIL 2017

**THE TOOL BOX**

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2



### Success Story - Rex

Hey my name is Rex, I am 29 years old from Nicholasville, KY. I'm a strong believer in Jesus Christ and I'm also a heroin addict in recovery. I just want to thank God for everything he has done in my life over the last year!! When I entered the Isaiah House on May 4th 2016, I was broken, lost, and hopeless! I had given up on myself and on life!! I had been beaten down and couldn't get back up! It wasn't until I fully surrendered and said, "God I'm done fighting and I need your help!!" God used the Isaiah House to draw me closer to him and to open my eyes to a new way to live!

I've been to multiple treatment centers and Isaiah House is by far the best treatment center in the state of Kentucky in my opinion! The reason I say this is because they don't just treat the disease, they treat the person! They get down to the root of the problem and they treat the individuals underlying issues!

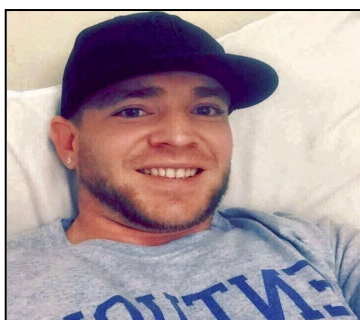
Today I have something money can't buy and that's salvation and a close relationship with my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! My life continues to get better every day!! I know that if I continue to keep my eyes on Him and put Him first in my life that he will lead, guide, and direct me and continue to bless me. God truly picked me up out of the depths of Hell and brought me to light!! I am forever thankful for God's grace and love!!!

I recommend Isaiah House for anyone that is suffering from the disease of addiction and wants to find a new way to live! It saved my life and it can save yours too!! #RealHopeForAddiction Rex Hager

Before:



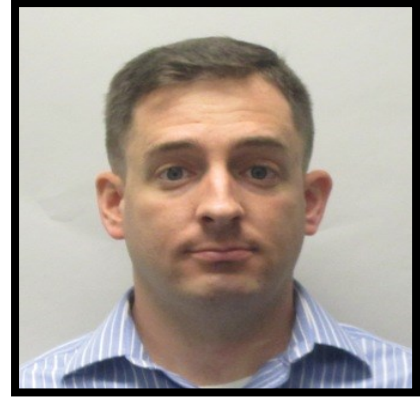
After:



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Story can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/IsaiahHouseInc/>

**SPOTLIGHT ON REENTRY PROBATION AND PAROLE OFFICER:****JONATHAN STAPLES, DISTRICT 13, OWENSBORO**

Jonathan Staples started his career with Probation and Parole on March 16, 2015 as a Probation & Parole Officer in the Owensboro Office. Initially, Jonathan was supervising a regular caseload in Daviess County. He did an excellent job with his assigned duties and provided an upbeat attitude to the Owensboro Office. Jonathan routinely assisted his fellow officers and volunteered for additional duties. He quickly became a real asset to the office.

Jonathan has a positive demeanor and a can do attitude; he was a clear choice to facilitate programs in District 13. NOA Counseling trained Jonathan in facilitating Moral Reconciliation Therapy in January 2016. Jonathan continued his normal duties and facilitation of MRT throughout 2016.

Jonathan outstanding audit scores, which are the highest throughout Probation and Parole, proves his effectiveness in facilitating MRT. Jonathan has also been an invaluable asset in restarting the Green River Reentry Council.

As we move forward, we are working on a data driven analysis of the criminal justice system, called "justice reinvestment." The goal of this approach is to reduce the number of repeat criminal offenders, control corrections costs, reinvest the savings into treatment programs and supervision practices, while maintaining public safety. Jonathan is the type of employee who can accomplish this goal with effective facilitation of programs. He is currently the District 13 Reentry Officer.

Jonathan is a 2009 graduate of Western Kentucky University. He is a four-year veteran of the United States Marine Band. He currently resides in Owensboro with his wife and two children.

Submitted by:

Jarrold Dortch - District 13 - Owensboro  
District Supervisor

IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE THAT DOES REENTRY OR OFFERS  
REENTRY SERVICES AND WOULD LIKE TO SPOTLIGHT THEM,  
PLEASE LET THIS OFFICE KNOW:

MELISSAJ.MOORE@KY.GOV

## Spotlight on Employment Coordinator, Rachel Denney Opportunity for Work and Learning (OWL)

As an Employment Coordinator at Opportunity for Work & Learning (OWL), she spends every day assisting individuals that have been previously incarcerated achieve successful employment!


Rachel began her position in January 2016 after obtaining her Criminal Justice degree from Eastern Kentucky University (EKU), with a focus in community based services. Today, Rachel runs OWL's Customer Service Representative Training program. This program enables job seekers to earn a certification in skills transferable to nearly any industry by blending nationally recognized training software and one-on-one instruction. She also leads OWL's S.N.A.P Employment and Training services which allow able-bodied adults without dependents that receive benefits in Fayette County to receive employment and training services at no cost to them. Rachel regularly helps people with Resume' development, mock interviews, career counseling, job placement and retention support.

Rachel says she was drawn to this position because she truly believes in second chances. Her hard work and passion have helped her to become a leader in vocational rehabilitation not only at OWL, but in Central Kentucky.



Submitted by:

Brandalin McClure-OWL  
Communications and Special Projects  
Coordinator




**Opportunity for Work and Learning (OWL) is a nonprofit with a mission to help job seekers overcome barriers, such as prior incarceration, to achieve successful employment!**

**VOCATIONAL & EMPLOYMENT SERVICES  
THAT CAN HELP YOU REACH YOUR GOALS**

One-On-One Career Counseling	Job Placement
Vocational Evaluations	Retention Support
Life Skills Classes	Interview Training
Customer Service Rep. Certification	Resume Building
Forklift Certification	& More

**PAID TRAINING THROUGH EMPLOYMENT**  
In addition to a variety of personalized services, OWL also offers another unique opportunity. You may be eligible to work at OWL's manufacturing company, the Lexington Manufacturing Center (LMC). If so, you could earn income, gain experience, and receive hands-on skills training/certification while receiving services! Permanent work opportunities may also be available.

**HOW TO RECEIVE SERVICES**



**You can be referred to us by an agency, such as...**


- Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)
- Office of Employment & Training (OET)
- Bluegrass Area Development District



**Or you may qualify if you receive...**

- S.N.A.P as an able-bodied adult without dependents in Fayette Co.
- MPW or SCL Medicaid waiver benefits
- Ticket to Work program benefits

We may also provide services to individuals who can not receive a referral from another source, on a case by case basis. To find out if you qualify for services at no cost to you, contact us at...

 (859) 254-0576  
www.owlinc.net

 650 Kennedy Road  
Lexington, KY 40511

YOU HAVE A VOICE!!! Want to use it??  
Interested in joining a Kentucky Reentry Council in your area??

### Kentucky Reentry Councils

Kentucky Reentry is made up of reentry task forces or councils throughout the state of Kentucky. The reentry groups do not provide services for ex-offenders, nor do they have reentry programs. They are made up of individuals and organizations networking together to share information and improve the reentry process. The members may be organizations and/or individuals that provide services and/or have interests in helping. Each group is focused toward ex-offenders coming back to their areas, the issues involved, and making their community safer.

The basic purpose of each group are:

To address the current issues returning citizens face

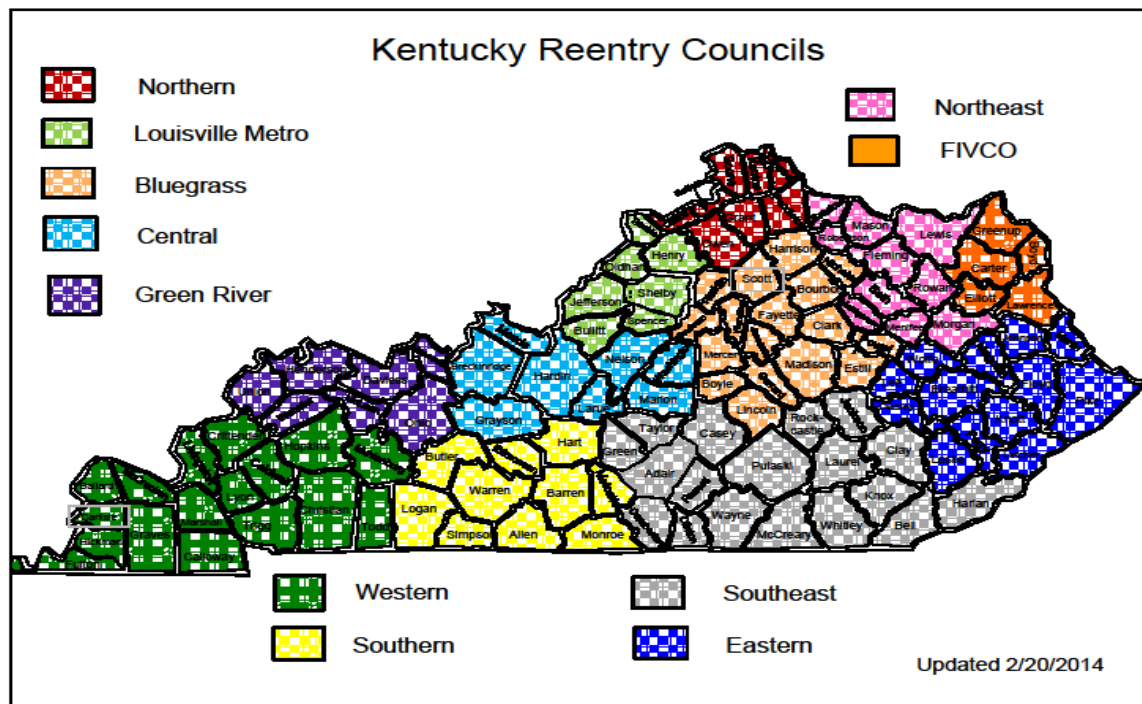
To develop a network of resources and service providers within their area

To communicate and advocate for the justice involved population to the community and their leaders.

If you would like to join, please visit our updated website: [www.kentuckyreentry.org](http://www.kentuckyreentry.org) for meeting dates, times and locations in your area!

Also, visit us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/kentuckyreentry>





## JOB/CAREER RESOURCES:



**Kentucky Youth  
CAREER CENTER**  
KentuckianaWorks  
612 S. 4th Street, Suite 400  
Louisville, KY 40202

**DO IT FOR YOURSELF, NOT BY YOURSELF!**

**PROVIDING EDUCATION,  
CAREER OPPORTUNITIES,  
AND JOB-SEARCH ASSISTANCE  
FOR LOUISVILLE YOUTH  
(AGES 14-24)**

*"After getting my GED, I've completed all the programs at KYCC and now I'm going to enroll in college to continue moving forward. It hasn't always been easy, but I knew that I could accomplish it."*  
-Bradley Anderson

**Earn FINANCIAL REWARDS** for participation and completion of various programs

- ★ KYCC will pay your GED® test fee, plus earn \$125 when you pass the test
- ★ Earn your National Career Readiness Certificate plus up to \$100 bonus
- ★ Enroll in college or training with up to \$4,600 in tuition/support assistance
- ★ Obtain employment and stick with it to earn an extra \$65 reward
- ★ Resume, FAFSA, and application assistance
- ★ Your Career Planner will advise you every step of the way
- ★ Have your voice heard in Time To Talk (T3), a peer communication group **...AND MUCH MORE!**

**CALL TODAY! (502) 574-4115**



## Women's Forum 2017

*Understanding the unique challenges women with substance Use Disorder face*

**Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 6:00 pm**

**Saints Joseph & Paul Parish Hall**

514 E 4th St Owensboro, Kentucky 42303

Forum will address women's health, substance use disorder and the unique challenges and opportunities women bring to counseling and treatment.

### Speakers:

Honorable, Julie Gordon, Judge, Daviess County Family Court-  
*Families of Addiction in the Court System*  
Kristen Whitney, J. D., Department of Public Advocacy –  
*Women in the Criminal Justice System*  
Jenny Kessinger, MSSW – START/DCBS –  
*Addiction and the Young Family – START Stories of Success*  
Emalee Deel, LCSW –  
*Effects of Trauma on Women*  
RonSonlyn Clark, PsyD, LCADC, RVBH –  
*How Women's Brains Differ*  
Debbie Clark, LMT - *A Personal Journey*  
Audrey Collins, Daviess County Drug Court – *Serving as Emcee*

**PUBLIC INVITED!**

**rvbh** rivervalley  
behavioral health




**Put a little spring in your step with  
JOB CLUBS!**

*At your local Job Club, you can...*

- Create a job search game plan
- Connect with quality employers
- Learn self-marketing and interviewing skills
- Get support from fellow jobseekers and workforce professionals
- Benefit from insider job leads

**New members are always welcome!**

BEGINNING WEDNESDAY MARCH 15 – MAY 3  
11 AM  
NEW MEMBERS ARRIVE AT 10:30 AM  
KCEOC – KENTUCKY CAREER CENTER  
464 COURT SQUARE  
BARBOURVILLE, KY  
CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION 606-546-2639  
OR E-MAIL Heather at [hagibson@kceoc.com](mailto:hagibson@kceoc.com)

Find us on Facebook at [ekcep.us/jobclubsinfo/](https://www.facebook.com/ekcep.us/jobclubsinfo/)

## RESOURCES:

**THERE IS HOPE**

PAL provides continuing education and support, at no charge, for parents struggling to cope with a son or daughter addicted to drugs or alcohol.

**For Spouses Too**

PAL can also help spouses who are forced to *act like a parent* to their addicted partner. All other sober family members and friends are also welcome to attend our meetings.

**YOU ARE NOT ALONE**

By attending our meetings, you will learn proven ways to help your loved one toward recovery from addiction. You will also be able to give and receive support from others who are facing the same challenges as you are.

**MONDAYS**  
**7:00-8:30**

**NORTHSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

117 East Jefferson Street, Georgetown, Kentucky 40324

FACILITATED BY PARENTS ON A SIMILAR JOURNEY

For more information, [www.pal-group.org](http://www.pal-group.org)  
or text or call 859-421-3484

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**TUESDAYS**  
**6:30-8:00**  
**MENTOR CHURCH**

3724 Smith Rd. California, KY 41007

FACILITATED BY LISA RUSCHMAN & TONI BEASLEY

TWO PARENTS ON THE SAME JOURNEY,

For more information, [www.pal-group.org](http://www.pal-group.org)  
or text or call Toni Beasley 859-414-8873  
(calls will be returned after 5 pm or on weekends)



## Parents of Addicted Loved Ones Support Group

**Group is Free – No Registration Required**



Catholic  
Charities  
Diocese of Covington

*Join Us*  
**Every Wednesday**  
**6:30-8:30**

3629 Church St. Latonia, KY 41015

*There is Hope!*

PAL meets every week and provides continuing education along with support, at no charge, for parents with a son or daughter suffering from alcohol or drug addiction.

*You are Not Alone!*

Many families are affected by addiction. PAL will allow you to give and receive support from others who are facing the same challenges you are. The guiding principles of Pal are confidentiality, respect, acceptance and support.

*For Spouses Too!*

PAL can also assist spouses who are sometimes forced into acting like a parent to their addicted partner who is abusing alcohol or drugs

**[www.covingtoncharities.org](http://www.covingtoncharities.org)**

*For More Information, Contact:*

Laura Jackson / Paula Weber  
Catholic Charities  
(859)581-8974

Tina & Tony Garera  
PAL Group Facilitators  
(859)760-0954




*Never Lose Hope.*

If you know of any support groups or family/offender resources you would like to see published, please email:

Melissaj.moore@ky.gov  
Reentry Branch




## RESOURCES:



**4 Your Child**  
**Dads Making The Difference**

Fathers' involvement in their children's lives has received increased attention in recent years. In response, support has grown for responsible fatherhood programs aimed at improving the quantity and quality of fathers' involvement. Research on these programs has concluded that factors such as fathers' parenting skills, co-parenting relationship quality, and socioeconomic status all impact fathers' ability to contribute to their children's growth and development.

- ✓ Increase parenting and relationship knowledge!
- ✓ Get connected to resources!
- ✓ Enjoy FREE food!
- ✓ Be compensated for your time up to \$220!



For more info or to sign up for orientation contact  
**CHILD** Dr. Cheri Langley at (502)709-9323 or by email at Cheri.Langley@louisville.edu

Connect With Us Online!  
[www.4YourChild.org](http://www.4YourChild.org)  
@4YourChildKy @4YourChildKy

Funding for this project was provided by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, grant number 59P000074-02-05. These services are available to all eligible persons, regardless of race, gender, age, disability, or religion.



## SAVE THE DATE

Kentucky Faith-Based  
Prevention Enhancement  
Site

Communicare  
Regional Prevention  
Center

### 6TH Annual Faith-Based Prevention Conference



Taking it back to where prevention started. Incorporating  
substance abuse prevention and mental health  
awareness into your community.


**Tuesday May 9, 2017:** 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

**Wednesday May 10, 2017:** 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Conference and CEUs are free of charge. Lunch will be provided Wednesday.

Paroquet Springs Conference Centre

Shepherdsville, KY




Louisville Urban League [WWW.LUL.ORG](http://WWW.LUL.ORG)

## Parent Leadership Academy

We invite all Jefferson County parents to our free 6 week parent leadership program!  
I Get answers to your questions I Learn what to ask during school meetings I Gain a supportive community of parents I Build your advocacy skills for your child I  
I Connect to community resources I

**Join the Lunch & Learn Series**  
**Tuesdays 11:15am - 12:30pm**  
April 11, April 18, April 25, May 2, May 9, May 16



**@ South Central Neighborhood Place**  
4255 Hazelwood Ave  
I All parents are invited I Lunch is provided I

Contact Lawrence at  
lwilbon@lul.org or 566.3389  
for more info & to RSVP

PosterMyWall.com

**RESOURCES:****A SECOND CHANCE FOR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES****Felony Expungement Informational Sessions**

Job seekers, employers and community leaders interested in felony expungements are invited to either session presented by Public Defenders Protection & Advocacy.

**Tuesday, April 25, 2017**

**MORNING SESSION: 9-11 A.M.**

**AFTERNOON SESSION: 1-3 P.M.**

**COLVIN COMMUNITY CENTER**

230 Freedoms Way | Radcliff, KY 40160

For more information, contact:

**Tanya Seabrooks: 270.300.4193 | Jerisia Lamons: 270.766.5115**

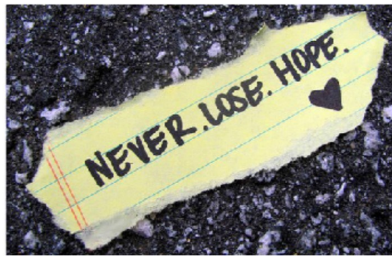
  
**Kentucky  
Career Center**  
Lincoln Trail



Funded by the Lincoln Trail Workforce Development Board through the U.S. Department of Labor. Administered by the Lincoln Trail Area Development District with Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Title I funds. An Equal Opportunity Employer Program and auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.



## RESOURCES:



### Do you have family or a friend in jail or prison?

Are you looking for a safe, welcoming community where you will be accepted without judgement?

Join us the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8:00pm.

**ALL ARE WELCOME.**



**PLEASE JOIN US**  
FOR FRIENDS AND  
FAMILY INC  
SUPPORT GROUP

**WHEN**  
3RD TUESDAY  
OF THE MONTH  
6:30-8:00PM

**WHERE**  
CATHOLIC CHARITIES  
3629 CHURCH ST.  
COVINGTON, KY  
41015

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
Maria Meyer  
mmeyer@covingtoncharities.org  
859.581.8974 ext.117  
www.covingtoncharities.org



### **BLUEGRASS FAMILIES** **OF THE INCARCERATED**



#### **\*\*FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL\*\***

Families of the Incarcerated is a group of family members in the Lexington, Kentucky area with loved ones incarcerated, committed to providing support to one another and provide for a smoother transition for the families once their loved ones return home. They meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM at American National University and welcomes all families who are seeking a place of love, support, and encouragement as they deal with having a member of their family in prison.

**PLEASE RSVP TO:** jamrnorton@gmail.com, 859-338-9821 (Jim)

#### **Upcoming 2017 Monthly Meetings/Topics:**

**January 18—** Jessica Halladay, State of Kentucky Justice Cabinet

**February 15—**

**March 15—**

**April 19—** Luke Canfield, Life Skills Program Specialist, Division of Community Corrections, Lexington

**May 17—** Kerry Mears, Kentucky Dept of Corrections, Reentry Branch

**June 21—** Rev. Aaron Mobley, Chaplain at North Point Correctional Facility

**Bluegrass Families of the Incarcerated, American National University  
2376 Sir Barton Way, Lexington, KY**